

INTEGRAL & RXTE View of Gamma-ray Binaries

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Gamma-ray binaries are X-ray binaries with gamma-ray emissions. Their multi-wavelength emissions range from radio, optical, X-ray and to very high energy (TeV). X-ray emissions are crucial to understand the nature of gamma-ray binaries. *INTEGRAL* and *RXTE* have covered and monitored most of the gamma-ray binaries in hard and soft X-rays. Here we report the results of several gamma-ray binaries and possible gamma-ray binaries from *INTEGRAL* and *RXTE*.

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1. Introduction

Various classes of gamma-ray sources have been detected up to the TeV band. Among them, the class of gamma-ray emitting binaries focuses great attention. They are X-ray binaries hosting O/B companions, which have gamma-ray emission up to High-Energy (HE, $E > 100$ MeV) and/or Very High-Energy (VHE, $E > 100$ GeV), modulated on the orbital period. Only a handful of such binaries are known (e.g., LS 5039, LSI +61 303, PSR B1259-63, HESS J0632+057, 1FGL J1018.6-5856, or Cyg X-3), although a larger population is expected. To understand their nature and particle acceleration mechanisms, X-ray emissions of gamma-ray binaries are crucial. *INTEGRAL* and *RXTE* have observed and monitored most of the gamma-ray binaries in hard and soft X-ray. Here we present the results for several confirmed (LS I +61 303, 1FGL J1018.6-5856 and HESS J0632+057) and possible gamma-ray binaries (AGL J1037-5708 and AGL J2241+4454) in the view of *INTEGRAL* and *RXTE*.

2. Super-orbital modulation of LS I +61 303

Our data set includes 473 *RXTE/PCA* pointed observations from 2007 August 28 to 2011 September 15. The analysis is performed using the standard *RXTE/PCA* criteria. Only PCU2 has been used for the analysis. Our count rate values are given for an energy range of 3-30 keV. In order to remove the influence of several kilosecond-long flares, we cut all observations that presented a larger count rate than three times the average.

Given a six-month time bin, we take the peak X-ray flux in orbital lightcurve and compute the modulated flux fraction. The latter is defined as $(c_{max} - c_{min}) / (c_{max} + c_{min})$, where c_{max} and c_{min} are the maximum and minimum count rates in the 3-30 keV orbital lightcurve of that period. Results are shown in Figure 1. Table 1 presents the values of the reduced χ^2 for fitting different models to the modulation fraction and the peak flux in X-rays. It compares the results of fitting a horizontal line, a linear fit, and two sinusoidal functions. One of the latter has the same period and phase of the radio modulation (from Gregory 2002, labeled as “Radio” in Table 1, dotted line in Figure 1). The other sine function has the same period as in radio but allowing for a phase shift from it (a solid line in Figure 1, labeled as “Shifted” in Table 1). It is clear that there is variability in the data and the sinusoidal description with a phase shift is better than the linear one. The phase shift derived by fitting the modulated fraction is 281.8 ± 44.6 days, corresponding in phase to ~ 0.2 of the 1667 ± 8 day super-orbital period. The phase shift derived by fitting the maximum flux is 300.1 ± 39.1 days, which are compatible with the former.

This super-orbital modulation is also reported in Chernyakova et al. 2012. We show that there is a ~ 0.2 phase shift between the radio and the X-ray super-orbital modulation. Torres et al. 2012 has recently discussed that LS I +61 303 could be subject to a flip-flop behavior. The super-orbital modulation is possibly due to the cyclic change of the circumstellar disk (Li et al. 2012a; see also Papitto et al. 2012). In this context, multi-wavelength super-orbital modulation is expected and confirmed in radio, optical, X-ray and hinted in GeV and TeV (Li et al. 2012a; Hadasch et al. 2012).

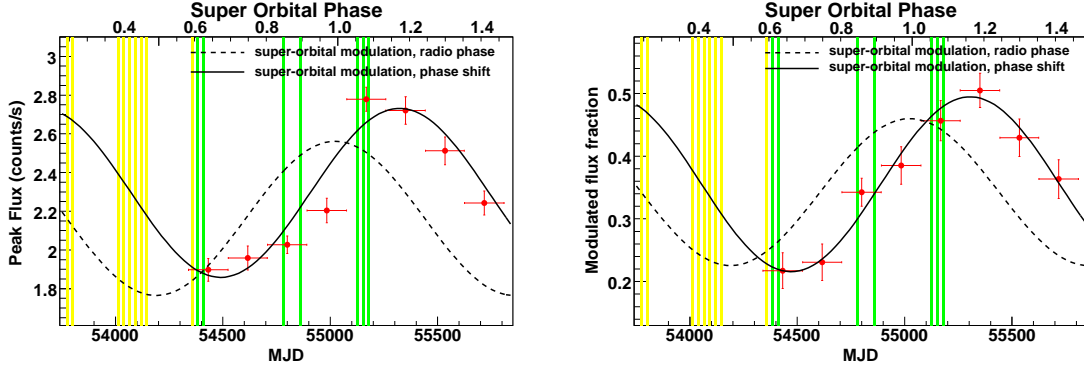


Figure 1: Left: Peak count rate of the X-ray emission from LS I +61 303 as a function of time and the super-orbital phase. Right: modulated fraction, see text for details. The dotted line shows the sine fitting to the modulated flux fraction and peak flux with a period and phase fixed at the radio parameters (from Gregory 2002). The solid curve stands for sinusoidal fit obtained by fixing the period at the 1667 days value, but letting the phase vary. The time bin corresponds to six months. The colored boxes represent the times of the TeV observations that covered the broadly-defined apastron region. The boxes in green denote the times when TeV observations are in low state while boxes in yellow are TeV observations in high state.

Table 1: Reduced χ^2 for fitting different models to the modulation fraction and the peak flux in X-rays.

	Constant	Linear	Radio	Shifted
Modulation Fraction	88.2 / 7	38.0 / 6	42.1 / 6	1.1 / 5
Peak Flux	212.8 / 7	114.8 / 6	91.8 / 6	4.9 / 5

3. INTEGRAL detection of 1FGL J1018.6-5856

1FGL J1018.6-5856 is a newly discovered gamma-ray binary by *Fermi/LAT*. It has an orbital period of 16.58 ± 0.04 days and an epoch of maximum gamma-ray flux at MJD 55403.3 ± 0.4 (Corbet et al. 2011). A coincident X-ray flux was found using *Swift* X-ray telescope (XRT) observations as well as a star of magnitude B2 which in turn coincides with the *Swift/XRT* detection. We present the results of the analysis of 5.78 Ms *INTEGRAL/ISGRI* data on the source 1FGL J1018.6-5856 (Li et al. 2011). The available *INTEGRAL* observations when 1FGL J1018.6-5856 had offset angle less than 14° , adding up to a total exposure time of 5.78 Ms. Our data set covers from 2003 January 11 to 2009 November 20. An *INTEGRAL* detection of 1FGL J1018.6-5856 is derived by combining all the *INTEGRAL/ISGRI* data, with a significance level of 5.4σ and an average intensity of 0.074 counts/s in the 18-40 keV band (see Figure 2, left panel). We only obtain 1.63σ in the 40-100 keV. We combine the images from different ScWs based on orbital phase bins and produce an orbital light curve. We show that the *INTEGRAL* orbital light curve of 1FGL J1018.6-5856 together with the *Fermi/LAT* periodicity in Figure 2, right panel. It hints a trend of having an anti-correlation between the hard X-ray emission and the *Fermi/LAT* periodicity. This is in line with the results for LS 5039 (see, e.g., Hoffmann et al. 2009) where the hard X-ray emission as measured with *INTEGRAL* is fully anti-correlated with the GeV emission as measured by *Fermi/LAT* (Abdo et al. 2009)—emphasizing a possible physical similarity of the two sources. However, the scarcity of counts makes it difficult to have a definitive proof of the variability and anti-correlation: a constant

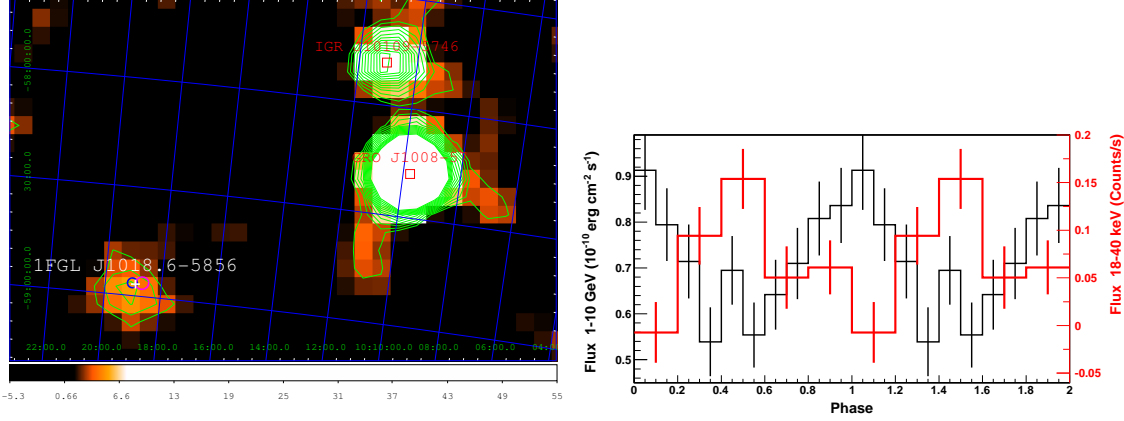


Figure 2: Left: Mosaic image of the 1FGL J1018.6-5856 sky region in the 18-40 keV band. The strongest source is GRO J1008-57 whereas the faintest one visible only in the image is 1FGL J1018.6-5856. The significance level is given by the color scale, with the contours starting at 3σ , and following steps of 1σ . The position of 1FGL J1018.6-5856 (magenta) as well as its updated center following the 2FGL Fermi-LAT Catalog is shown, while the cross represents the counterparts identified using XRT (from Corbet et al. 2011). Right: Orbital light curve of 1FGL J1018.6-5856 by *INTEGRAL/ISGRI* in 18-40 keV (red) and by *Fermi/LAT* in 1-10 GeV (black)

fit to the count rate yields a reduced χ^2 of 14.09/4, suggesting that the significance of variability is at only 2.7σ level.

4. INTEGRAL source 4U 1036–56 as a possible gamma-ray transient

In recent years, a number of unidentified, transient gamma-ray sources were discovered in the Galactic plane, especially by *AGILE*. Many of them have also been suggested to have a possible binary nature (see, Table 1 in Li et al. 2012b). All candidates have been suggested to have a possible high mass X-ray binary (HMXB) counterpart. Two gamma-ray transients (AGL J1037-5708 and GRO J1036-55) are located in the same region of the sky and spatially associated with HMXB 4U 1036-56 (see Figure 3). 4U 1036-56 is identified with a B0 III–Ve star LS 1698 at ~ 5 kpc (Motch et al. 1997) and hosting a pulsar with a period of 853.4 ± 0.2 (La Palombara et al. 2009). We report on long-term analysis of *INTEGRAL* data on 4U 1036-56, examining the possibility of its association with the unidentified transient γ -ray sources AGL J1037-5708 & GRO J1036-55 (Li et al. 2012b).

For the *INTEGRAL* analysis in this paper, we use all public IBIS/ISGRI and JEM–X data for which 4U 1036-56 has offset angle less than 9° and 5° , respectively. The data covers from 2003 January to 2009 November, adding up to a total exposure time of 4.42 Ms for IBIS/ISGRI and 1.02 Ms for JEM–X. 4U 1036-56 is detected by IBIS/ISGRI with a significance level of 11.2σ and an average intensity of 0.180 ± 0.016 counts s^{-1} in the 18–60 keV band. Figure 3 shows the IBIS/ISGRI and JEM–X mosaic image of the 4U 1036-56 sky region. 4U 1036-56 is detected by JEM–X at 3-20 keV at a significance of 4σ , with an average intensity of $0.88 \pm 0.22 \times 10^{-4}$ counts/cm 2 /s.

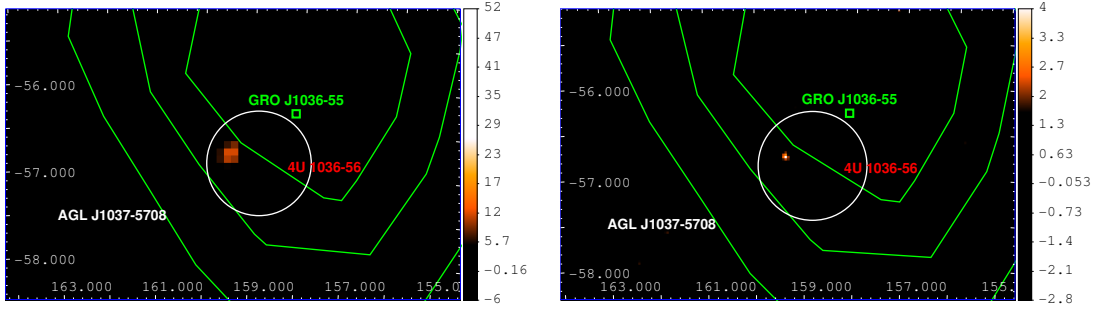


Figure 3: Mosaic image of the 4U 1036–56 sky region, derived by combining all IBIS/ISGRI data (18–60 keV, left panel) and combining all JEM–X data (3–20 keV, right panel). The position of the transient *AGILE* source AGL J1037–5708 is plotted with its 95% error region (white). Another transient source, GRO J1036–55 is shown in sky region with its 1, 2, 3 σ uncertainty location (green). The significance level is given by the color scale. Corresponding significance and color can be found in the right color bar. The X- and Y-axis are RA and Dec. in units of degrees.

We investigated the IBIS/ISGRI long-term light curve of 4U 1036–56 on the ScW timescale in the 18–60 keV band. During most of the time, 4U 1036–56 is not significantly detected by IBIS/ISGRI. However, an outburst is discovered by IBIS/ISGRI between MJD 54142 (2007 Feb. 11) and MJD 54147 (2007 Feb. 16). This outburst at MJD 54144 is significantly detected by IBIS/ISGRI having a significance of 30.4σ and an average intensity of $2.589 \pm 0.085 \text{ counts s}^{-1}$ in the 18–60 keV band, over a 199 ks exposure ($\sim 1/22$ of the total exposure on the source). The JEM–X detection in the outburst period is significantly made at 10.1σ with an average intensity of $0.194 \pm 0.019 \times 10^{-2} \text{ counts/cm}^2/\text{s}$ in the 3–20 keV band. Out of the outburst period, 4U 1036–56 is detected by IBIS/ISGRI only with a significance of 5.7σ under a total exposure time of 4.4 Ms in the 18–60 keV band. The average flux is $0.094 \pm 0.018 \text{ counts s}^{-1}$ in the 18–60 keV band (27 times dimmer than in outburst). JEM–X does not detect 4U 1036–56 during quiescence, yielding only 2.58σ in the 3–20 keV, under a total exposure of 0.99 Ms. We extract an energy spectrum both from JEM–X and IBIS/ISGRI and fit with absorbed blackbody, an absorbed powerlaw, and an absorbed cutoff powerlaw model. We have found that only an absorbed cutoff powerlaw model could yield an acceptable fit. According to an F-test, the probability of refusing the cutoff to a simple power-law is 4.78×10^{-4} , corresponding to a significance of 3.5σ . Based on the spectrum parameters of the *INTEGRAL* outburst and assuming a source distance of 5 kpc (Motch et al. 1997), the luminosity derived in 2–10 keV band is $5.16^{+0.72}_{-0.63} \times 10^{35} \text{ erg s}^{-1}$.

The positional coincidence as well as the variability timescales make it possible to entertain the hypothesis that the high-energy transients and 4U 1036–56 are related. We have shown that that it is theoretically feasible that HMXBs produce gamma-ray emission during periods of X-ray activity induced by accretion (Li et al. 2012). Hence it is in principle plausible that 4U 1036–56 and the *AGILE* flares are related.

5. INTEGRAL non-detection of HESS J0632+057 and AGL J2241+4454

HESS J0632+057 is a gamma-ray binary with 321 days orbital periods (Bongiorno et al. 2011) and a companion of B0 Vpe star (Casares et al. 2011). It is detected in radio (Skilton et al. 2009),

soft X-ray (Falcone et al. 2010) and TeV (Aharonian et al. 2007). We look for its hard X-ray counterpart with *INTEGRAL*. At an offset angle of 14 degree, HESS J0632+057 is observed by IBIS/ISGRI with a exposure of 0.81 Ms and by JEM-X with 15 ks exposure from 2003 to 2011. But HESS J0632+057 is not detected in the 18–60 keV energy range by IBIS/ISGRI nor in 3–35 keV range by JEM-X. AGL J2241+4454 is a transient gamma-ray source detected by the *AGILE* satellite above 100 MeV (Lucarelli et al. 2010). It is possibly associated with Be star MWC 656 with an orbital period of 60.37 ± 0.04 days (Williams et al. 2010). It is a gamma-ray binary candidates (Li et al. 2012b). We try to identified its counterpart in hard X-ray by *INTEGRAL*. The available *INTEGRAL/ISGRI* data on AGL J2241+4454 with an offset angle of 14 degree leads to a total exposure of 2.1Ms. The detection significance is only 1.37 sigma in 18–60 keV. As a result, we do not have a detection of AGL J2241+4454.

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